

Top Secret

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Tuesday August 10, 1976

CI NIDC 76-187C

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

Unauthorized Disclosure Subject to Criminal Sanctions

DIA review(s) completed.

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State Dept. review completed

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Tuesday, August 10, 1976.

The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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GREECE-TURKEY: Sismik I Controversy Continues

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[] A senior Greek official informed the US embassy in Athens yesterday that the Greeks believed the Turkish research ship Sismik I would continue to operate in contested portions of the Aegean despite Greek protests.

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[] Earlier in the day, Athens lodged a second protest note with Ankara. It answered the Turks' formal rejection on Sunday of an earlier Greek protest about alleged activities of the Sismik I in disputed waters Friday and protested additional incursions the Greeks believe took place yesterday and Sunday.

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[] The Greek ambassador in Ankara asserted that Athens could accept Ankara's offer to resume bilateral negotiations on Aegean problems only if the Turks would agree to keep the Sismik I out of contested waters. According to the Greeks, the immediate Turkish response was cool.

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[] Yesterday evening Greek Prime Minister Caramanlis announced two other measures to cope with Aegean tensions. Athens will ask for an emergency session of the UN Security Council to consider the problem and will also approach the International Court of Justice to seek a demarcation of the Aegean continental shelf.

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[] Both moves may give the government room to maneuver by somewhat relieving the growing domestic pressure for sterner countermeasures to perceived Turkish infringement of Greek Aegean claims. Athens prefers to air its differences with Ankara in international forums, because the Greeks believe they have a strong legal case. The Turks have consistently resisted referring Aegean problems to The Hague Court, believing they have more to gain from bilateral discussions.

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[] Ankara took note yesterday of the second Greek demarche. According to the Turks, the document contained "harsher" language than the Greeks had previously used. A Turkish official said a correspondingly harsher second Turkish note was under preparation.

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[] Turkish Prime Minister Demirel told reporters that "come what may the Sismik will continue its scheduled operations." Demirel is being attacked by the opposition for his allegedly weak Aegean policy.

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[] The Greek government has apparently taken further military precautions. The defense attache in Athens reported indications yesterday that the Greek air force had increased its readiness level. []

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[] Each side has accused the other of provocative activities in connection with their respective efforts to monitor the Sismik I. Turkish officials in Ankara have complained to the Greek ambassador about harassment of the ship by low-flying Greek airplanes and of close passes by Greek warships.

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[] Greek officials told the US embassy yesterday that Turkish airplanes had twice overflown the Greek ship trailing the Sismik I, and the second Greek note to Ankara accused the Turks of accompanying the Sismik I at various times with an airplane, a helicopter, or a ship. []

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LEBANON: Situation Report

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[] The Syrian-Palestinian-Lebanese truce committee meeting that was repeatedly postponed last week will be delayed still further because Syrian Foreign Minister Khaddam and Palestine Liberation Organization representative Qaddumi left yesterday to attend the nonaligned summit conference in Sri Lanka.

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[] Arab League mediator Hasan Sabri al-Khuli has not given up hope of convening a meeting with substitute representatives but seems resigned to waiting for the return of the leading negotiators.

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[] The long delay is giving all parties time to raise objections. The Syrians now insist that other leftists rather than Kamal Jumblatt represent the Lebanese left. Christian leader Camille Shamun has branded the Jumblatt group traitors and refused to attend if they participate.

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[redacted] Leaders of the Arab League peace-keeping effort met yesterday to discuss an enlargement of neutral zones and methods of controlling cease-fire violations, but little progress is likely in the face of the refusal by all sides to adhere to the truce. Al-Khuli continues to meet with the leaders of various factions in the hope of making the cease-fire effective.

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[redacted] A Christian force in the north--apparently acting without direct Syrian support--launched an armored attack last weekend on Palestinians around a Carmelite school on the edge of Tripoli but were pushed back. Both sides reported heavy fighting yesterday in an area near Zagharta.

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[redacted] The Syrians, presumably to avoid being charged with violating the "cease-fire," seem content for the time being to sit back and let the Christians take the lead in the current fighting throughout the country. [redacted]

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[redacted]

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NORTH KOREA: Nonaligned Summit Conference

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[] A large contingent from North Korea--which may be led by President Kim Il-song--will attend the nonaligned summit conference that opens in Colombo next week.

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[] Pyongyang is counting on increased support from the nonaligned states to score a decisive victory at the UN General Assembly in the fall and wants to ensure that the political document issued at the end of the summit conference includes a strong pro-Pyongyang resolution on the Korean issue.

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[] The North Koreans are not satisfied with the Korean portion of the draft political statement formulated at the preparatory meeting of the nonaligned countries in Algiers in late May. That draft calls for the withdrawal of all "foreign" troops and the replacement of the armistice agreement with a peace agreement--both central components in Pyongyang's position--//but North Korea wants additional language branding the US the major source of tension on the Korean Peninsula.//

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[] This theme has received heavy play in the North Korean media in recent months and was the subject of a formal government statement last Thursday. Foreign Minister Ho Tam arrived in Colombo yesterday as head of an advance party and immediately held a press conference to accuse the US of war preparations in South Korea.

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[] //The anti-US language is only a small part of lengthy amendments Pyongyang would like to make in the non-aligned political statement to infuse it with more militancy. The North Koreans are lobbying for a seat on the important coordinating committee;

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[] Sri Lankan officials have been told to expect upwards of 100 persons in the North Korean delegation. The North Koreans have docked their prize passenger ship--the Mangyongbong--at Colombo's port to serve as a floating hotel for the delegation.

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[] In the past, North Korea's communist allies and friends among the militant nonaligned states have been spokesmen for Pyongyang at international meetings. As a result, many third-world countries have not directly experienced the heavy-handed, unsophisticated methods characteristic of North Korean diplomacy.

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[] This time, the North Koreans, who gained membership in the nonaligned movement last year, will be pleading their own case in the full glare of the international limelight, and their performance may produce some interesting contretemps. []

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SOUTH AFRICA: Rioting Resumes, Spreads

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[] Black South African students resumed rioting yesterday after a fairly quiet weekend. Although the latest disturbances were small-scale compared with the outbreaks in Soweto last week, the demonstrations are clearly intended to provoke violence and they are spreading to new areas.

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[] Yesterday, as last week, militant students tried to impose an industrial work stoppage by intimidating commuters in several black townships around Johannesburg. Urban employers, however, said that absenteeism among black workers was negligible.

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[] Although no serious clashes between police and students occurred in Soweto yesterday, police opened fire in three other black townships near Johannesburg, killing two youths and wounding five. Last week police gunfire killed no more than three, although the rioting resulted in five additional deaths and many injuries.

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[] Some student disturbances were reported yesterday in 12 separate localities, including a black township near Durban and in Mafeking, capital of the Bophuthatswana tribal homeland. In some instances, militants were trying to keep other students from attending school, a recurrent pattern during recent weeks.

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[] In Mafeking, students burned down the building where the tribal legislative assembly meets. They apparently were showing disapproval of the plan to make Bophuthatswana nominally independent within the next few years without providing adequate resources.

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[] The minister of Bantu administration told the press on Sunday that the government is planning to give urban blacks more control over their own affairs, but he gave no details. Such promises, along with recent consultations between government leaders and authorized black spokesmen for the urban blacks, appear inadequate to reverse the trend toward student militancy since the June riots. []

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EAST - WEST GERMANY: Border Problems Continue

25X1 [] The shooting of an Italian truck driver by East German border guards last week has sharpened the propaganda exchange between West and East Germany.

25X1 [] The West German press has given extensive coverage to the incident--the first such killing of a non-German citizen. Several West Germans have been involved in similar incidents in recent weeks. Spokesmen for all the major political parties have condemned the shootings. Facing a close election in less than two months, the Bonn government is particularly sensitive to opposition charges that it is ineffective in preventing such incidents.

25X1 [] //Chancellor Schmidt and other officials reportedly do not believe that the recent shootings are officially inspired, but Schmidt is concerned that more incidents will lead to an increase in tension.//

25X1 [] Opposition leaders, including the Christian Democrats' chancellor-candidate Kohl, have insisted that Bonn apply economic sanctions against East Berlin, but the Schmidt government has ruled this out; government spokesmen point out that past Christian Democratic - led governments also refused to cut off trade credits.

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[] East Germany's embarrassment at what it sees as West Germany's exploitation of the latest affair was apparent yesterday in a commentary in the party daily. The article described the Italian victim as a "friend of the German Democratic Republic"--he was a member of the Italian Communist Party--and noted the "mysterious circumstances" of his death.

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[] The paper attacked Bonn for playing election politics and, for the first time, warned of the possibility of curtailing the travel of West German tourists and visitors. Bonn's permanent representative in East Berlin met yesterday with East German Deputy Foreign Minister Nier to discuss the border problem. Both sides still seem eager to contain the situation.

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CHILE: Problems with Andean Pact

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[] Chile may withdraw from the Andean Pact, a group of six South American countries formed to foster trade and development.

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[] Chile opposes an amendment that would postpone for two years implementation of new tariffs and industrial development programs. Last week, Chile refused to sign the amendment and said it will reopen discussions only if other Pact members agree to revise restrictions on foreign investment.

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[] According to the Chileans, the Pact's foreign investment code, which limits foreign equity in an enterprise to 49 percent and profit remittance to 14 percent, is an obstacle to economic development. The Chileans further assert that the delay in implementing common external tariff and internal tariff reductions maintains high consumer prices.



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[REDACTED] The other five members concede that some easing of the profit remittance level would benefit Pact countries but consider the amendment necessary to give members time for joint industrial development programs, while protecting their economies from competition abroad and among themselves.

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[REDACTED] Chile has until August 30, when the Pact Commission reconvenes, to reconsider its position on the amendment.

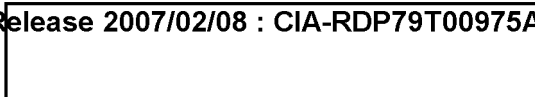
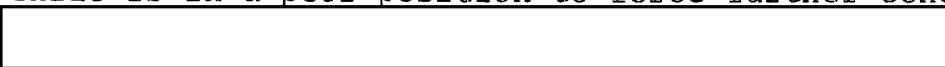
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[REDACTED] Ministers from all the Pact countries except Chile will meet in Lima on August 16. They probably will agree to Chilean requests for revision in the profit remittance to keep Chile in the Pact, but they are unlikely to give ground on the amendment.

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[REDACTED] As long as the five remain in essential agreement on the timing and extent of implementation of Pact agreements, Chile is in a poor position to force further concessions.

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